

MCCPTA DELEGATES ASSEMBLY

March 23, 2021

Meeting Held on Zoom

Continuance April 7, 2021

Meeting Held on Zoom

Cynthia Simonson called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm, quorum was established. The agenda was adopted and the minutes from the February 2021 Delegates Assembly were adopted.

Informational Updates began at 7:06 pm.

National/MDPTA Updates:

You had a slide with this info, I will need to get that from you as you typically send me the slide deck and I was still letting people into the meeting.

Officer Reports began at 7:12 pm.

All officer reports can now be found in two places – the meeting materials folder in One Drive for the month of the meeting https://mccpta-my.sharepoint.com/:f:/g/personal/office_mccpta_org/Ev-vv3TXZMoP1sByvJjiIBQKQlpe2ISET8SDm3c7La_Q?e=eBiuHi and on the MCCPTA website: <http://www.mccpta.org/delegates-assembly.html>

President – MCCPTA Office Manager maintains this spreadsheet for Officer and Committee Reports - <http://nebula.wsimg.com/306a358f0e38297cd1a3e2f43843b68f?AccessKeyId=AB71C8A62DC88BF7171E&disposition=0&alloworigin=1>

See written report for updates – of particular interest the virtual academy and principal selection.

VP Educational Issues – AP tests will be both virtual and on paper in mid to late May and early June. Specific guidance is expected to be distributed in the next few days.

VP Administration – waiting for the MCPS 2021/2022 Calendar to be finalized. Summer School options should be released soon; continue to complete and file SOCA documents; pay your MDPTA dues directly to MDPTA or National PTA.

VP Programs – there will be a virtual spring celebrations event, looking at May 27th.

VP Advocacy – participated in the National PTA Legislative Conference; working to bring school renovations back on schedule with the budget; details in Laura’s report.

Treasurer – all reports are in the meeting materials folder in One Drive. Please pay your dues. Working on the Hartford insurance audit and next year’s budget.

Committee Reports began at 7:20 pm

All reports can be found here - https://mccpta-my.sharepoint.com/:f:/g/personal/office_mccpta_org/Em25H1ua1JFBh7a9uT2fRyI/BgQxcgDZB1r734KNU90lBLw?e=jbauhc

Old Business began at 7:23 pm

Cynthia read the delegates’ Rights and Duties:

“You are free to vote as you see fit on matters that come before the convention (Delegates Assembly), except that you must vote in accordance with any instructions your unit may have chosen, by majority vote, to give you. After returning, it is your duty to be prepared to present to the unit for which you are a delegate an information report on what happened.” [RONR, (12th ed.) 58:6-9; 59:14(5), 58:18.]

Voting - Each vote will be recorded. The tally of the vote will be recorded in the minutes but the actual vote of each motion will be part of the folder.

The Chair, Cynthia, asked, due to the complexity of this motion, we agree to debate this motion (resolution) for 1 hour – allowing 45 minutes for actual debate and 15 minutes to accommodate logistics related to virtual zoom/voting (our standing rules allow 15 minutes and then we must amend time, I’d like to minimize logistics so am hoping we can agree to a number of items by unanimous approval)

- If there is no audible objection (in other words, unanimous agreement), we will continue.
- If there is an audible objection, we will remove the “observers” (meaning, anyone was not registered and in good standing by the dates we agreed; sending those individuals to the waiting room) and then we will proceed with a poll vote.
- If the Delegates vote down the 45 minute timeframe, we will revert to our standing rules of just 15 minutes and then vote to continue in whatever increment we decide as the 15 minutes is about to expire.

There was no objection.

Yvonne Van Lowe– The DEI committee considered the comments and amendments submitted to them in response to the proposed resolution. She went through the document emailed to the Delegates on March 16, 2021 detailing which amendments and or comments were accepted and added to the proposed resolution. On behalf of

the DEI committee, I move the adoption of MCCPTA Resolution on School Resource Officers and School Safety and Security.

The Chair accepts the motion.

Since it has been made available electronically and is available on the screen, is there an objection to me not reading it aloud in its entirety. There was no objection.

Due to the number of parts to the resolution, may we consider the motion in 5 parts with the first part allotted 25 minutes and the remaining 4 parts each allotted 5 minutes to consider. No objection was made

Since there are a number of parts and possible amendments to consider, may we agree that upon presentation of an amendment (and the amendment is seconded), we will limit the debate of each motion to be 1 minute per speaker... alternating with 2 speakers for and 2 speakers against the amendment, putting the motion to a vote, then move to consider the next amendment. There was no objection.

There were two amendments not accepted by the DEI committee. The first to be presented is from the Piney Branch Delegate – Jamie Koppel.

Be it Resolved: That the Montgomery County Council of Parent Teacher Associations urge Montgomery County Public Schools to eliminate the SRO program.

The proposed amendment is to eliminate SROs due to more research needed. Sarah Goupell (Piney Branch ES) seconded the motion, Fred Azcarate also seconded. Mr. Wilson (student at Northwood) spoke in favor of the amendment. The delegate from Carderrock and Yin Zheng (Wootton) spoke against.

Collins Odongo engaged in the discussion but the Chair reminded him, and others that observers (those members of PTAs not in good standing) might not debate or vote.

Cynthia then asked the delegates if there was any objection to asking those designated as observers not to vote. No Objection from the delegates.

At 8:12 pm with 220 delegates total on zoom but 214 in good standing a vote was taken using the poll function as agreed upon at the beginning of Old Business. Results – Yes 36% (58) No 64% (101) the amendment proposed by the delegate from Piney Branch failed.

The next amendment considered was proposed by Sumeet Sharma:

I move to amend the first Resolved clause by deleting the phrase “discontinue placing police officers (SROs) on every high school campus, and, instead,” so that the Resolved clause reads as follows: “Be it Resolved: That the Montgomery County Council of Parent Teacher Associations urge Montgomery County Public Schools to train and

assign child-centered, dedicated patrols to every high school cluster in compliance with the 2018 Maryland Safe to Learn Act. Such patrols should be available to every school's security and administration teams, as needed."

Charisse Scott seconded the motion.

Yvonne Van Lowe and the delegate from Montgomery Blair spoke against. The delegate from Richard Montgomery spoke in favor.

At this point in the meeting there were technical issues with the poll voting so it was decided that delegates would vote in the chat by typing school name and yes (in favor) or no (against).

A motion was made to continue debate on the 1st resolution and amending the end time of the meeting, there were objections to this motion so it was not carried forward.

Wanda, Parliamentarian, presented her observations – due to the technical issues her suggestion is to postpone the meeting and make it clear how to vote and when participants need to register by to vote. The meeting would be postponed with a fix time to adjourn.

The Chair asked if there is any objection to fix time to adjourn this meeting. At this time a motion to convene a continuation of this delegates assembly to the week after spring break was made. The actual motion was debated with several amendments offered by the delegates from Brookhaven, Beverly Farms, Pyle MS, Ashburton and Damascus, requiring everyone at this meeting be able to vote in the continued meeting; the ExComm will determine technical requirements; and all amendments will need to be voted on again. All of which passed overwhelmingly.

Motion is to continue this meeting at a date and time selected by the president and the executive committee will begin with the first resolution statement, recasting all cotes taken on the first and second amendments offered, and determine the minimum technical requirements for participating in the meeting and the conditions of voting to include those individuals that were registered and qualified to participate on 3/23 and include all the amendments.

The Question was called to end debate on the motion to continue at 9:48 pm and seconded, 119 in favor and 17 opposed.

At 9:53 pm a vote was taken on the motion to continue, 110 in favor and 18 opposed. The motion passed.

The meeting was continued at 9:54 pm.

Upcoming Dates:

- April 15th – Blake Cluster Meeting
- April 22nd – Poolesville Cluster Meeting
- May 6th – Gaithersburg Cluster Meeting

The meeting was continued on April 7, 2021. Cynthia called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm and read the mission statement of the MCCPTA.

Informational Updates began at 7:06 pm.

National PTA

March 26 – National pulled the charter of the MDPTA.

MDPTA is still a corporation under the Maryland Secretary of State so may still “conduct business.”

- MDPTA is no longer allowed to “conduct business” using the PTA trademark, name, brand, resources, etc. National did send a “cease and desist” letter.
- National is in process of determining assets, resources, etc.

March 31 – National held 2 zoom meetings with Maryland PTA leaders across the state.

- Local units should still follow their approved bylaws.
- Local units should remit any dues directly to National PTA (not using Memberhub feature).
- National is in process of establishing new State Organization. National and Councils will support local units in interim.

PER NATIONAL, FOLLOW YOUR BYLAWS

Hold Local Unit PTA Elections

- Local Unit Bylaws stipulate the election process - Nominating Committee, Officers to be elected
- Pass a “preliminary budget” - Include any anticipated summer expenses AND start up items for the 21-22 until the General Membership can pass the 21-22 budget (e.g., insurance, set prelim membership rates, National and State conventions -- ~\$50 per)

Hold Cluster Elections to MCCPTA Board

- Cluster Coordinators (see MCCPTA bylaws)
- Area Vice presidents (see MCCPTA bylaws)

File all paperwork, as required

Conduct Financial Reviews (after June 30), as required

- “Listening session” for MCCPTA Executive Committee - Helps shape the MCCPTA Advocacy Priorities
- Opportunity for MCPS Offices to “float” ideas to the greater MCCPTA leaders
- “Meet and Greet” for elected officials - Giving opportunity to hear directly from PTA leaders
- Opportunity for PTA leaders to get “sea legs” and better understand “who’s who” in County! vpadmin@mccpta.org and training@mccpta.org – if you have ideas or want to help shape information sharing sessions!

Old Business continued at 7:20 pm. The Rights and Duties of a Delegate were read and the delegates were reminded that the agreements made on 3/23/21 are still in effect. The agreements can be found in the 2021 SRO Resolution Slide Deck in the March 2021 materials folder.

Voting – Cynthia reiterated the voting process of ‘hand raising’ with the observers moved to the waiting room prior to votes being taken. Under this process, we will not be recording votes for the amendments but will record the vote for the final resolution via polling. Fred A. objected, he made a motion to record all votes, including those for the amendments, the motion was seconded. A vote was taken and 100 voted to vote by polling, 46 were opposed.

The first two amendments made below were not debated again as they were debated on March 23, 2021. The votes were taken again this evening and recorded.

Proposed Amendments to the 1st Resolution Statement

The first amendment was made by the Delegate from Piney Branch ES to the 1st Resolution Statement –

Be it Resolved: That the Montgomery County Council of Parent Teacher Associations urge Montgomery County Public Schools ~~to discontinue placing police officers (SROs) on every high school campus, and, instead, train and assign child-centered, dedicated patrols to every high school cluster in compliance with the 2018 Maryland Safe to Learn Act. Such patrols should be available to every school’s security and administration teams, as needed.~~ **to eliminate the SRO Program.**

This proposed amendment failed - 127 (75%) opposed, 42 (25%) in favor

The next amendment was made by the Delegate from Cold Spring ES to the 1st Resolution Statement –

Be it Resolved: That the Montgomery County Council of Parent Teacher Associations urge Montgomery County Public Schools ~~to discontinue placing police officers (SROs) on every high school campus, and, instead,~~ train and assign child-centered, dedicated

patrols to every high school cluster in compliance with the 2018 Maryland Safe to Learn Act. Such patrols should be available to every school's security and administration teams, as needed.

The proposed amendment failed – 76 (42%) opposed, 100 (58%) in favor

The next amendment was made by the Delegate from Northwood HS to the 1st Resolution Statement, it was seconded by the Poolesville Cluster Coordinator –

Be it Resolved: That the Montgomery County Council of Parent Teacher Associations urge Montgomery County Public Schools to discontinue placing police officers (SROs) on every **any** high school campus, and, instead, train and assign child-centered, dedicated **patrols resource personnel** to every high school cluster in compliance with the 2018 Maryland Safe to Learn Act. Such **patrols resource personnel** should be available to every school's security and administration teams, as needed

Two delegates spoke in opposition to the proposed amendment – Piney Branch and Board Member Yin. The Einstein HS PTA President spoke in favor.

The proposed amendment passed – 77 (45%) opposed and 95 (55%) in favor

There were no amendments made by motion to the 2nd, 3rd and 4th Resolution statements.

Proposed Amendments to the 5th Resolution Statement

The first amendment to the 5th Resolution statement was made by the Delegate from Silver Creek MS –

Be it finally Resolved: MCCPTA will advocate this position with the Board of Education, MCPS and other elected **governmental** bodies, such as the Montgomery County Council, ~~that has an interest in this issue.~~

Silver Creek's motion was to strike "that has an interest in this issue", Matt Swibel proposed adding "governmental" in front of "bodies". Flora Singer asked for clarification "governmental" or "elected governmental". It was determined that "elected governmental" was what was intended by the amendment. A vote was taken and 112 (64%) were in favor and 64 (36%) were opposed.

The next amendment to the 5th Resolution statement was made by the President of Magruder HS PTSA –

Be it finally Resolved: MCCPTA will advocate ~~this position~~ **these positions** with the Board of Education, MCPS and other elected governmental bodies, such as the Montgomery County Council.

Motion seconded by Matt Swibel. No one spoke in opposition to the change or in favor. There was no objection and the amendment passed by unanimous consent.

Kellie alerted Cynthia that time for debate had expired. Cynthia made a motion to extend time. The motion was opposed by Matt Swibel. As a result a 2/3 vote is needed to extend time 5 minutes to finish the 5th Resolution. The motion to extend time failed with a vote of 87 (51%) in favor and 86 (49%) opposed.

Time expired and now the entire Resolution is open for consideration.

The Delegate from Piney Branch then withdrew her motion regarding the 1st resolution.

Another amendment to the 5th Resolution statement was made by the Delegate from Loiderman MS –

Be it finally Resolved: MCCPTA will advocate these positions with the Board of Education, MCPS and other elected governmental bodies, ~~such as the Montgomery County Council.~~

The Delegates from Northwood and Parkland spoke in opposition. There was no debate in favor. The amendment failed with a vote of 49 (31%) in favor and 110 (69%) opposed.

The next amendment to the 5th Resolution statement was made by the Delegate from Blair HS –

Be it finally Resolved: MCCPTA will advocate these positions with the Board of Education, MCPS and other ~~elected~~ governmental bodies, such as the Montgomery County Council.

The motion was seconded by Laura Mitchell. Laura Stewart spoke in opposition. There was no objection to remove the language – “elected” – so adopted by unanimous consent.

Time is up, a motion to extend time for 5 minutes was made by the Delegate from Carderock, seconded by the Delegate from Richard Montgomery. There were several objections and as a result a 2/3 vote was needed for the time extension to pass – 65 (40%) in favor and 98 (60%) opposed. As a result of the vote time was not extended.

At 8:43 pm a vote was taken on the entire 2021 SRO Resolution as amended – 103 (61%) in favor; 66 (39%) opposed – the Resolution as amended passed.

At 8:44 pm the DEI moved that MCCPTA rescind the 2010 SRO Resolution. The motion came from committee so a second was not needed. Yvonne Van Lowe spoke in favor stating that the 2010 Resolution was passed before the 2018 Safe Schools Act and predates the negative data on discipline and does not reflect the 2019 Gun Violence Act.

Board Member Yin spoke in opposition stating schools should be allowed to make their own decisions on the use of SROs.

The Delegate from Takoma Park stated that the 2010 Resolution was outdated and contradicted the new resolution that was just passed.

The Delegate from Wheaton spoke in opposition – arguing to keep the old resolution because trained SROs are needed in the buildings with students today to provide guidance.

Board Member Chris Rutledge spoke in favor stating that the old resolution contradicts the 2021 Resolution.

The Delegate from Carderock spoke in opposition – arguing to keep the 2010 resolution because the new 2021 resolution contradicts itself.

The Delegate from Eastern MS made a motion to end debate. The motion was seconded by Asario. Notice was given to the Delegates Assembly that the 2010 SRO Resolution was on the agenda for removal so a majority vote is needed to end debate – 127 (81%) in favor and 30 (19%) opposed. Debate was ended. A poll vote was taken and 103 (64%) were in favor of rescinding the 2010 SRO Resolution, 57 (36%) opposed.

Cynthia addressed complaints in the chat regarding censorship and unfairness in the process/procedure. The MCCPTA laid out the procedure for the meeting and tried to acknowledge a variety of opinions to represent the county as a whole.

Cynthia will send the fully adopted resolution to the DA in a few days.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:02 pm.

Upcoming Dates:

- April 27th – Delegates Assembly & Elections
- May 27th – MCCPTA Celebration of Excellence, Virtual Event